Art thou a feodary for this act[6], and look'st So virgin-like without ? Lo, here she comes.

Enter IMOGEN.

I am ignorant in what I am commanded[7]. *hto.* How now, Pisanio ? *Pis.* Madam, here is a letter from my lord.

[6] Art thou a FEODARY for this act,] A *feodary* is one who "holds his estate under the tenure of suit and service to a superior lord. HANMEE.

Ci Art thou ^*feodary* for this act." Art thou too *combined,* art thou a *confederate,* in this act ?—A *feodary* did not signify a feudal vassal, as Sir Thomas Hanmer and the subsequent editors have supposed, (though if the word had borne that signification, it certainly could not bear it here,) but was an officer appointed by the Court of Wards, by virtue of the statute 32 Henry VIII. c. 46, to be *present with,* and *assistant* to the Escheators in every county at the finding of offices, and to give in evidence for the king. His duty was to survey the lands of the ward after office found, [i. e. after an inquisition had been made to the king's use,] and to return the true value thereof to the court, &c. " In cog-noscendis rimandisque feudis (says Spelman) ad regem pertinen-tibus, et ad tenuras pro rege manifestandas tuendasque, operam navat; Escaetori ideo *adjunct us,* omnibusque nervis regiam pro-movens utilitatem." He was therefore, we see,, the Escheator's *associate,* and hence Shakspeare, with his usual licence, uses the word for a confederate or associate in general. The feudal vassal was not called a *feodary,* but *&feodatary* and *feudatory** In Latin, however, *feudatarius* signified both. MALONE,

How a letter could be considered as a *feudal vassal,* according to Hanmer's interpretation, I am at a loss to know. *Feodary* means, here, a *confederate,* or *accomplice.* So, Leontes says of Hermione, in The Winter's Tale :

" More, she's a traitor, and
Camillo is " *Kfederary* with her."

I also think that the *vtm&feodary* has the same signification in Measure for Measure, though the other commentators do not, and have there assigned my reasons for being of that opinion.

M. MASON-.

7 I am ignorant in what I am commanded.], i. e. I am unpractised in the arts of murder. STEEVENS.

So, in King Henry IV. Part L :

" O, I am ignorance itself in this."